Comparative Production Cost of Wheat

†3829. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of wheat production in America, Brazil, Australia is higher than that in India;

(b) if so, the assessments made about average wheat production costs in America, Brazil, Australia and India; and

(c) the reasons for the said differences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Cost of Production depends on cost of Cultivation and productivity. Data on Cost of Cultivation is not available in respect of Australia and Brazil. As per data furnished by Food and Agricultural Organisation (F.A.O.) on Cost of Cultivation and Cost of Production of Wheat in U.S.A., it is seen that in the year 1998, the Cost of Cultivation in U.S.A. was 407 Dollars or Rs. 15124.12 (Based on Exchange rate of Rs. 37.16 per Dollar for 1997-98) per hectare. Their average productivity was estimated at 2.8 M. Tonnes per hectare and therefore their Cost of Production worked out to 14.54 Dollars or Rs. 540.15 per quintal. As against this the Cost of Cultivation in important Wheat growing States in India like Haryana, M.P., Punjab, Rajasthan and U.P. was Rs. 17081.60, Rs. 9365.52, Rs. 17333.89, Rs. 14266.69 and Rs. 13343.91 per hectare respectively during 1997-98. Accordingly after adjusting for productivity and by-product, the Cost of Production in these States worked out to Rs. 391.85, Rs. 475.25, Rs. 411.97, Rs. 393.02 and Rs. 362.65 per quintal respectively.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.